

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-4 and 13, and amend claims 5-12, 14-18, and 25 as follows.

Sub C17
B5 5. (Amended) A method of inducing a protective or therapeutic immune response against *Helicobacter* in a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a prophylactically or therapeutically effective *Helicobacter pylori* antigen by the subdiaphragmatic, systemic route.

6. (Amended) The method of Claim 5, in which a Th1-type immune response is induced by said subdiaphragmatic, systemic administration.

Sub C18
B6 7. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 6, in which the Th1-type immune response is characterized either (i) by a ratio of the ELISA IgG2a:IgG1 titers greater than or equal to 1:100, or (ii) by a ratio of the ELISA IgG2a:IgA titers greater than or equal to 1:100.

Sub C19
B7 8. (Amended) The method of Claim 7, in which the Th1-type immune response is characterized either (i) by a ratio of the ELISA IgG2a:IgG1 titers greater than or equal to 1:10, or (ii) by a ratio of the ELISA IgG2a:IgA titers greater than or equal to 1:10.

9. (Amended) The method of Claim 8, in which the Th1-type immune response is characterized either (i) by a ratio of the ELISA IgG2a:IgG1 titers greater than or equal to 1:2, or (ii) by a ratio of the ELISA IgG2a:IgA titers greater than or equal to 1:2.

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10. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 5, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen is selected from a preparation of inactivated *Helicobacter pylori* bacteria, a *Helicobacter pylori* cell lysate, a peptide or a polypeptide from *Helicobacter pylori* in purified form, a DNA molecule comprising a sequence encoding a peptide or a polypeptide from *Helicobacter pylori* placed under the control of the elements necessary for its expression, and a vaccinal vector comprising a sequence encoding a peptide or a polypeptide from *Helicobacter pylori* placed under the control of the elements necessary for its expression.

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11. (Amended) The method of Claim 10, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen comprises the UreB or UreA subunit of a *Helicobacter pylori* urease.

12. (Amended) The method of Claim 10, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen is a DNA molecule or a vaccinal vector comprising a sequence encoding the UreB or UreA subunit of a *Helicobacter pylori* urease.

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14. (Amended) The method of Claim 5, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen is administered by the strict systemic route.

15. (Amended) The method of Claim 5, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen is administered by a systemic route selected from the subcutaneous route, the intramuscular route, and the intradermal route.

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16. (Amended) The method of Claim 5, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen is administered by a mucosal route followed by a parenteral route.

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17. (Amended) The method of Claim 16, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen is administered by a parenteral route, followed by a mucosal route, followed by a parenteral route, followed by a mucosal route.

18. (Amended) The method of Claim 5, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen is administered in the dorsolumbar region of said mammal.

Sub C20

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25. (Amended) A method of preventing or treating *Helicobacter* infection in a mammal, said method comprising in order the steps of:

mucosally administering an effective amount of a prophylactically or therapeutically effective *Helicobacter pylori* antigen to said mammal; and then

parenterally administering a *Helicobacter pylori* antigen to said mammal.

Please add the following new claims 26-35.

Sub C21

Rule 126

B12

37. 26. (New) The method of claim 25, in which more than one mucosal administration is carried out.

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38. 27. (New) The method of claim 25, in which more than one parenteral administration is carried out.

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28. (New) The method of Claim 25, in which the mucosal administration is carried out to prime an immune response to said *Helicobacter pylori* antigen, and the parenteral administration is carried out to boost an immune response to said *Helicobacter pylori* antigen.

40.

29. (New) The method of Claim 25, in which the mucosal administration is oral administration.

41.

~~30.~~ (New) The method of ~~Claim 25~~, in which the parenteral administration is intramuscular administration or subcutaneous administration.

42.

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B 12

31. (New) The method of Claim 25, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen is selected from a preparation of inactivated *Helicobacter pylori* bacteria, a *Helicobacter pylori* cell lysate, a peptide or a polypeptide from *Helicobacter pylori* in purified form, a DNA molecule comprising a sequence encoding a peptide or a polypeptide from *Helicobacter pylori* placed under the control of the elements necessary for its expression, and a vaccinal vector comprising a sequence encoding a peptide or a polypeptide from *Helicobacter pylori* placed under the control of the elements necessary for its expression.

43.

~~32.~~ (New) The method of ~~Claim 31~~, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen comprises the UreB or UreA subunit of a *Helicobacter pylori* urease.

~~44.~~ 33. (New) The method of Claim 31, in which the *Helicobacter pylori* antigen is a DNA molecule or a vaccinal vector comprising a sequence encoding the UreB or UreA subunit of a *Helicobacter pylori* urease.

Rule 16
~~45.~~ 34. (New) The method of Claim 25, in which a mucosal adjuvant selected from the group consisting of *Escherichia coli* heat labile enterotoxin (LT), cholera toxin (CT), *Clostridium difficile* toxin, *Pertussis* toxin (PT), and combinations, subunits, toxoids, and mutants derived therefrom, is co-administered with the mucosally administered *Helicobacter pylori* antigen.

B 12
Sub C 27
~~46.~~ 35. (New) The method of Claim 25, in which a parenteral adjuvant selected from the group consisting of alum, QS-21, DC-chol, and Bay is co-administered with the parenterally administered *Helicobacter pylori* antigen.